



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Laurent Schaller et al. Examiner: Ho, Uyen T.

Serial No.: 10/653,027 Group Art Unit: 3731

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Title: TISSUE CONNECTOR APPARATUS AND METHODS

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this ______ day September, 2006.

Signature

Jo L. Brecht

Printed Name

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is a response to the Office Action dated March 8, 2006 for which a three-month extension request is being filed herewith to extend the period for response from June 8, 2006, to September 8, 2006.